

COUNTRY East Germany

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TOPIC Brandenburg-Arado Airfield

25X1X

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1C

25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1C

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 13 March 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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- ☐ 1. The following observations were made at Brandenburg-Arado airfield between 5 and 19 February 1953:

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5 February. At 2:50 p.m., an IL-10 plane circled over the field, while the sky was overcast and visibility below 1 km.

7 February. Between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., two biplanes alternately flew over the field in clear weather.

8 February. At 9 a.m., 38 IL-10s were counted at the field. The planes which were distinctly seen had red propeller hubs and red upper edges on their rudder assemblies. Between 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., no air activity was observed. A biplane with a two-man crew flew at intervals of 30 minutes. A radio truck, a sedan, 2 tank trucks, a fire truck, a truck, a command car, and 4 to 5 men wearing flying suits were observed at the take-off point.

9 February. At 11:45 a.m., an IL-10 plane was observed aloft in hazy weather.

11 February. At 11:40 a.m., there was slightly hazy weather and visibility of 2 to 3 km. The clouds were at an altitude of above 3,000 meters. Individual flights were made by IL-10s which practiced taking off, landing and low level attacks. Air activity was discontinued at about 4 p.m.

13 February. A biplane practiced flying. There was a closed cloud base at an altitude of 500 to 600 meters.

14 February. At 10:25 a.m., 42 IL-10s were counted at the field. At 11:30 a.m., three formations consisting of 9, 7, and 6 IL-10s respectively were aloft. At 2:45 p.m., 46 IL-10s were counted at the field.

15 February. Between 8:15 and 9:45 a.m., there was no air activity. Forty-six IL-10s were counted.

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18 February. Most of the aircraft, except for two planes were parked in the revetments. A small bus towing a field kitchen was observed near the revetments.

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19 February. Between 7:30 and 8 a.m., 36 IL-10s were parked in four groups of 3 planes at the take-off point. There was hazy weather, a ceiling of 300 to 1,000 meters and visibility of 1,000 to 1,500 meters. At 8:15 a.m., an IL-10 plane landed at the field, probably returning from weather reconnaissance. Subsequently, observation had to be discontinued. At 9 a.m., the loud noise of engines was heard. Source believed that all the aircraft took off. At 9:45 a.m., 2 radio trucks, each with an antenna mast, 3 tank trucks, 2 trucks and a command car with political slogans were observed parking near the shrapnelproof aircraft revetments along Einstein Strasse. Ten to 15 soldiers with gas masks stood in front of the command car. Fifteen rifles were stacked there.¹

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2. Between 10 and 23 February, individual and formation flying was practiced by 2 to 8 IL-10s in the vicinity of the field. The aircraft had red propeller hubs and red upper edges on their rudder assemblies.

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1. Comment. Brandenburg-Arado airfield is occupied by a ground attack regiment which is equipped with about 60 IL-10s. During the second half of February, large scale exercises were held by Soviet Army units in East Germany. Apparently, the ground attack regiment from Brandenburg-Arado also participated in these exercises between 14 and 19 February. This assumption is supported by the observation that flights were made in large formations and that the aircraft were parked in the shrapnelproof revetments.

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